

State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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NEWS RELEASE

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Generate Energy from The Wind

Do you have a good breeze on your property? Have you thought about harvesting it with a wind turbine to generate electricity for your needs or to sell the power to your utility? An anemometer is an easy way to measure whether or not you have an adequate wind resource for electrical generation.

The Utah Geological Survey's State Energy Program (SEP) has just purchased four 50-meter meteorological towers (anemometers), which measure wind speed and direction, and is loaning them out as a part of its Anemometer Loan Program. These towers will help determine if there is sufficient wind to generate electricity on your property.

The SEP, along with support from the U.S. Department of Energy's "Wind Powering America Initiative," is offering these 50-meter towers for the assessment of large-scale or commercial wind energy projects. Most wind developers consider at least six months of data at the 50-meter height a requirement for large-scale wind energy development. The loanee would be responsible for installation costs.

The SEP also has 20-meter towers available for loan for smaller or residential projects that are intended to offset a landowner's personal use. Data gathered at 20-meters is not considered sufficient enough to independently justify a wind farm, but it can be useful as a preliminary study for large-scale development. No installation fee is required by the landowner for the 20-meter towers.

The SEP is currently accepting applications on a first come, first serve basis. For more information or if you are interested in obtaining an application or applying online, please visit www.wind.utah.gov and click on the Anemometer Loan Program button. Otherwise contact Nykole Littleboy at (801) 538-5413, nykolelittleboy@utah.gov.

The Utah Geological Survey is an applied scientific agency that creates, interprets, and provides information about Utah's geologic environment, resources, and hazards to promote safe, beneficial, and wise use of land.

